Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/29/2021 6:22:06 PM

First name: Robert Last name: Ortiz Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your Draft Revised Forest Plan.

The Manti-La Sal is so important to so many for a variety of reasons, and in light of increasing pressures the forest faces from a hotter, drier Colorado Plateau, the revised Forest Plan must consider climate change; conservation of wildlands, water, native plants, and wildlife; increased Indigenous influence, and better responsiveness to the public.

We must also keep in mind The Manti-La Sals forest plan must prioritize the protection of cultural sites and areas of tribal interest over other uses of the forest, and the forest must encourage partnerships with Native nations to incorporate Indigenous traditional knowledge in planning.

All of these needs can be met by the Conservation Alternative, and it must be analyzed in its full and complete form in the upcoming Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Additionally, it's important to me that we take immediate and decisive action to preserve and protect the benefit of native plants, wildlife, and precious water sources.